

REMARKS**I. Status of the Claims**

Claims 10-11 are currently pending in the application.

By this Amendment, claim 10 has been amended. No new matter has been added by this Amendment. Upon entry of this Amendment, claims 10-11 would be pending.

II. Written Statement of Substance of Interview:

On August 15, 2006, the undersigned representative conducted a telephonic interview with the Examiner concerning arguments previously submitted by the Applicant which were not considered. Specifically, as indicated in the Office Action, the Examiner did not consider Applicant's arguments concerning first and second image sensing areas existing/arranged on a single plane. Accordingly, as discussed, the Examiner would consider the issue if claim 10 was amended to explicitly recite such language. As such, the Applicant has submitted herewith amendments to claim 10 to reflect such language.

III. Claim Rejections Under U.S.C. § 102:

Claims 10 and 11 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by Kinoshita et al. (US Patent No. 5,726,709).

Claim 10 as amended is directed to an arrangement in which a single image sensing element has first and second image sensing areas with substantially the same size, and both the first and second image sensing areas are arranged on a single plane.

As previously submitted, since a first and second image sensing areas are arranged or exist on a single plane, an optical system of an image sensing apparatus becomes

smaller than that of the cited reference Kinoshita. The cited reference Kinoshita however does not disclose or suggest the claimed feature which makes a resolution of an image higher.

Therefore, claims 10 and 11 are not anticipated by the cited reference and are distinguishable over the same.

CONCLUSION

Based on the foregoing amendments and remarks, the Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection of claims and allowance of this application.

AUTHORIZATION

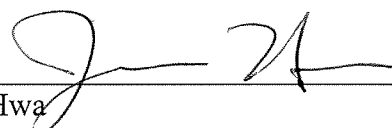
The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required for consideration of this Amendment to Deposit Account No. 13-4500, Order No. 1232-4782.

In the event that an extension of time is required, or which may be required in addition to that requested in a petition for an extension of time, the Commissioner is requested to grant a petition for that extension of time which is required to make this response timely and is hereby authorized to charge any fee for such an extension of time or credit any overpayment for an extension of time to Deposit Account No. 13-4500, Order No. 1232-4782.

Respectfully submitted,
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